

62-32509

Section

10

RECORDED

EAT:JM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

8/12/39

Transmit the following message to:

SAC NEW ORLEANS

RE LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. YOU ARE
AUTHORIZED CONTACT WITNESS SEGUE UPON ARRIVAL AND TAKE HIM TO
THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS OFFICE.

HOOVER

CODED AND SENT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
AUG 12 1939
TELETYPE

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 4-1-59
13

SENT VIA

Per

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 51-262-7

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 11 1939

TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-11-39 7-45 PM EFK

DIRECTOR

RE LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. TWO MAIL FRAUD
INDICTMENTS EXPECTED TO BE RETURNED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY, NEW ORLEANS,
MONDAY AGAINST GEORGE CALDWELL SUPT. CONSTRUCTION LOUISIANA STATE
UNIVERSITY, INVOLVING KICKBACKS CALDWELL RECEIVED FROM CONTRACTS
BETWEEN LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND CONTRACTORS. ASSISTANT UNITED
STATES ATTORNEYS, NEW ORLEANS, PROCEEDED TO DALLAS FOR REMOVAL HEARING
ON FREMAN BURFORD, INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY HERE IN CONNECTION
WITH VIOLATION OF CONNALLY ACT, AS BURFORD IS FIGHTING REMOVAL.
RE UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ABE SHUSHAN JURY, OCTOBER 5, 1935, TAMPERING WITH
JURY. TAYLOR SEGUE, NEGRO, ONE OF THE JURORS, CALLED THIS OFFICE FROM
WASHINGTON DC THAT HE WAS AT 5120 WASHINGTON PLACE, CARE OF M. T.
MALVAN, TELEPHONE ATLANTIC 0012. UNITED STATES ATTORNEY HERE WIRED
SEGUE TO APPEAR IN NEW ORLEANS FOR SERVICE OF SUBPOENA WHICH HE REFUSED
TO DO SO UNITED STATES MARSHAL, WASHINGTON DC, WAS REQUESTED TO SERVE
SUPOENA ON SEGUE. O. JOHN ROGGE REQUESTED
SEGUE LEFT WASHINGTON DC, TIME HE LEFT, THE
OF HIS ARRIVAL HERE. ALSO REQUESTING THAT
ORLEANS HE BE IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED AND BROU
ATTORNEYS OFFICE. IF THE BUREAU AUTHORIZES
ING SEGUES DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON IT IS

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Egan
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-23574-216
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 15 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM
TWO

Washington Field
advised 8-11-39 JFS
Crime Conditions Louisiana

cc - nucleus wire no
entw 8/21/39
2

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 57-242-7

IMMEDIATELY HAVE THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION CONTACT THE UNITED STATES MARSHAL THERE AND CONDUCT THE INVESTIGATION REQUESTED BY ROGGE RELATIVE TO THE DEPARTURE AND THEREAFTER IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE NEW ORLEANS OFFICE OF THE RESULTS. THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IF SEGUE SHOULD BE CONTACTED UPON HIS ARRIVAL HERE AND TAKEN TO THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS OFFICE.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC OEC

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

August 11, 1939

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY;
Information Concerning

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is a statement by SHIRLEY
WIMBERLY entitled "Plot to Seize The State Government,"
which was distributed in New Orleans.

This statement is being forwarded to the
Bureau for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett
B. E. SACKETT
Special Agent in Charge

CWD:ALS
Enclosure

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-22509-245
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 14 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WANK

OUT OF MY WAY
POOR ONE! MY
FATHER IS A
MEMBER OF THE
CITIZENS
VOLUNTARY
COMMITTEE!

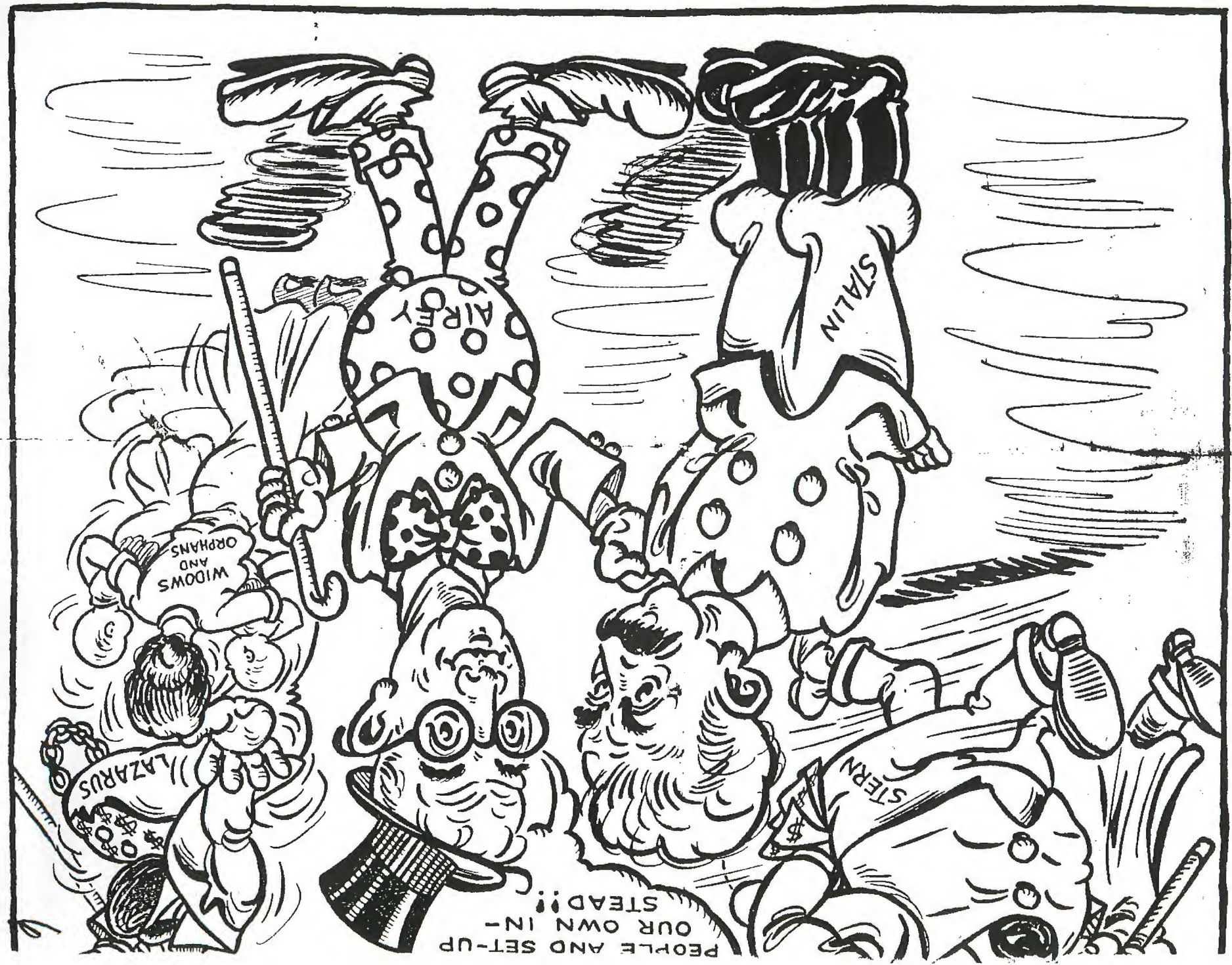
IT'S HIGH TIME
THE TIMES-PICAYUNE
REGAINS CONTROL OF
LOUISIANA! HUEY
LONG AIN'T AROUND TO
KEEP US OUT ANY
LONGER!!!!!!

HURRAH! FOR MISTER STERN!

MISTER
STALIN-WE ARE
MEMBERS OF THE
CITIZENS VOLUNTARY
COMMITTEE OF LOUISIANA
--WE WANT YOU TO GIVE
US YOUR BEST IDEAS ON
HOW TO TAKE A GOVERN-
MENT AWAY FROM THE

WALK-
OVER
SHOES

BEAT IT!!



Plot To Seize The State Government!

Lying Times-Picayune and Corporation Lawyers Itching to Regain Political Control of Louisiana Which Huey Long Snatched From Them.

A HIT DOG YELPS!

On last Monday night I talked over Radio Station WDSU about a mis-named outfit calling itself the Citizens Voluntary Committee of Louisiana, which holds itself out as an agency to save the State of Louisiana.

The next morning the newspapers carried an item that this Committee had warned Radio Station WDSU that if its owners allow me to tell the truth again over that station that dire and terrible things will happen to it, and they further ask Governor Long to repudiate me. Why? Why pick on WDSU and Governor Long? I made the speech. Not WDSU, nor Governor Long.

This Committee of blue-bloods and corporation lawyers has put a gag on the newspapers so they can't tell the truth. Now they want to shut off the radio so the people of this State can't hear the truth spoken at all. And they want the Governor of this State to throw over his best friends, who have always had his best interests at heart and will at least give him honest and sincere advice when he needs it, and take the members of that bogus committee in as a sort of kitchen cabinet to run the State for him.

Who asks for my repudiation?

Not the poor man or poor woman.

Who asks that my right of free speech be denied to me?

settled and highly publicized situation in Louisiana as a springing board back into political power and control of this State. They have never been able to stomach the licking Huey Long gave them many years back when he kicked them out and gave control of this State into the hands of the people of Louisiana.

Before the people started running this State did anyone ever dream of Free School Books in Louisiana?

Was anyone bold enough to believe that we would ever have such things as Homestead exemptions, where a poor man could own his little home and have the tax burden taken off his shoulders?

While these Corporation Lawyers were running this State—the same clique that's raising so much fuss in the newspapers now—did the people enjoy such things as free poll taxes? Did we have thousands of miles of paved roads? While these out-moded aristocrats who turn up their noses at poor people were running this State their way, was this a place where a poor man could get sick without becoming a bankrupt while he was trying to get well again? Did we have a magnificent hospitalization system in Louisiana then, absolutely free to any poor man, woman or child who cannot afford to pay for necessary medical care and attention?

You know as well as I do that we did not. This State was ten thousand miles behind in the march of progress before Huey Long came along

and corporate interests and they will never in this world attack or criticize one of their own.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I understand that that period of my political life during which I was opposed to Senator Huey Long, is to be used to try to show that I am insincere in the present situation.

Now these birds might as well know right now that I am not going to be put on the defensive. That's an old political trick and it won't work with me. I am merely going to state my position regarding that question and then I do not intend to ever refer to it again.

I supported Huey P. Long in 1924 when he ran for Governor and in 1928 when he ran again. I took the stump and made many speeches for him. I was still his friend during the dark days of his impeachment. In 1930 he came to New Orleans and made one of the few mistakes he made during his political life. He was misled into joining forces with a man whose name I shall not call, because he is not presently in politics, but who was universally despised by every decent person in New Orleans. I told the Senator I would not be a political bed-mate of that man then or at any other time and I never have. Senator Long, not at that time knowing the situation in New Orleans as well as he came to know it later, insisted on aligning himself with this man and several of his friends and I decided we couldn't go along. And we didn't. And Huey Long himself, when he finally found this man out for the crook he was and kicked him out, told me he had

Bastille where I can only hear the echoes of my own voice as it cries out against injustice? I'll tell you.

These are the heartless scoundrels who opposed the distribution of free school books among the children of the poor.

Tinsel decorated aristocrats who tried to keep the brains of the poor children clouded and darkened with ignorance so that they could be used as beasts of burden for the rest of their lives.

Who else? Sleek, hawk-nosed gamblers, not boys in shirt-sleeves who shoot "craps" on the corners, but fashionably dressed, high-hatted snobs who hoist the price of food on the floors of the cotton and stock exchanges.

Yes, I'll tell you who wants to send me as an exile to a newly created Siberia—I'll tell you.

A harlot press, the notorious Times-Picayune and Daily States. Front, middle and back sold to the Chain Stores and bloated corporations.

A rotten subsidized press, enemy of States' rights; inveterate foe of organized labor and hater of the Common Man.

Who else wants me silenced?

The reactionaries who opposed a network of paved roads throughout this State. **WHO ELSE? EVERY MAN WHOSE FACE WAS CREASED WITH WRINKLES OF JOY WHEN THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRED HUEY P. LONG STAINED THE FLOOR OF THE CAPITAL AT BATON ROUGE.**

Well, I don't believe those aristocratic gentlemen will succeed in scaring the owners and operators of WDSU into running for cover. But, if they do, there still remains the public platform and the circular like this one to tell the people what's going on in this State.

And there's plenty going on!

Please don't ever be mistaken about that.

There's a well-concocted and concerted scheme on hand by the lying newspapers and the Corporation Lawyers to use the present un-

the big rich corporations have the iron-clad, copper-riveted gall to believe they can make the people of Louisiana forget these privileges and blessings they enjoy since the shackles fastened on them by the moneyed interests were ripped off by the late and great Huey P. Long.

Oh no, you worshippers of Mammon!

YOU SHALL NOT PASS! We will not let you pass. You will never succeed in your nefarious scheme to fool the good, plain, honest people of this State into accepting you as their champions and defenders.

Has any one of these fine birds of the Citizen's Voluntary Committee of Louisiana that I called by his proper name in my radio broadcast the other night, questioned the truth of what I said? Did the newspapers, which are owned and controlled body and soul by these Corporation Lawyers, say anything in defense of any individual on that Committee that I talked about?

NO! They employed quite another method. They ran to Radio Station WDSU and told its owners: "Don't you dare let that fellow talk about us any more. If you do we might sue you!" Threats, that's all. Empty, idle threats. They will never shut me up, as long as they strut around here posing as something they are not. As long as they are willing to keep on representing big corporations and banks and running brokerage shops and big businesses as private individuals and stay out of politics where they definitely don't belong, I'll have no quarrel with them. But if the Times-Picayune and the New Orleans States and the Big moneyed interests and the other Home Rulers think they are going to shut me up by threatening Radio Stations and asking the Governor of the State to repudiate me, then I say to them here and now that that isn't the way to do it. There is but one way and that is the way they stopped Huey Long.

Have you seen the Times-Picayune and the New Orleans States and the Citizen's Voluntary Committee take out after any individual or concern in this whole situation who was a banker or a broker, with the exception of one little fellow who came to Louisiana only recently and who was not himself, a blue-blood?

No, and you won't see it either. Those newspapers get their advertising from the moneyed

(OVER)

that man I resumed my friendship with him. I was his friend from then until the day he was martyred by an assassin's bullet.

Whatever differences I had with Huey Long occurred when he was alive and in good health and also at the very zenith of his power. I did not wait until after he was murdered to disagree with him, nor have I made war on his widow like the Times-Picayune and the New Orleans States did.

If Huey Long was willing to compose his differences with me and was satisfied to accept my friendship two years before his death, that's good enough for me.

The best answer I can possibly make to those who seek to brand me as an enemy of Huey Long, is that I am, in my humble way, using my every energy to defend him against the onslaughts of the enemies he left behind when he closed his eyes in death.

Now, let me get back to this Citizen's Voluntary Committee of Louisiana. Why don't they have their lawyers do a little looking at their law books and dig up some statute or constitutional provision of the law which gives them the right to displace the elected officials of this State and take over and run our State Government?

Or, do they believe that because they were born rich and aristocratic they had attached to them at birth a sort of Divine right to govern such as is claimed by Kings?

Don't they know that in this land of ours Every Man's A King?

The people of this State, down to the humblest of its citizens, reserve the right to vote for and elect to office the public officials of their choice to run this State for them.

If I know the people of Louisiana, and I think I do, they intend to keep on with that Democratic system.

Therefore, the Times-Picayune and the New Orleans States and their fellow wolves-in-sheeps-clothing, the blue-nosed members of the Citizen's Voluntary Committee would do well to take the back seat in Louisiana's politics where Huey Long sat them long ago.

SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY.

RECORDED

62-32507-244
ACH:MK

September 9, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

There is inclosed herewith for your information
a copy of the report of Special Agent J. O. Peyronnin,
New Orleans, Louisiana, dated August 7, 1939.

There is also inclosed herewith a transcription
of a talk made by Shirley Gerard Wimberly on August 7,
1939, which was recorded at the New Orleans office by
means of the Ediphone dictating machine.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Spots _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____

*Aug. sent
9/14/39 - c*

Handwritten initials and marks:
A large stylized 'E' or 'W' mark.
A circled '9' with 'm' inside.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **New Orleans, Louisiana**

N.O. FILE NO 62-967

REPORT MADE AT New Orleans, La.	DATE WHEN MADE Aug. 7, 1939	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE July 31 & Aug. 1-2, 1939	REPORT MADE BY J. B. PEYRONIN SH
TITLE SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY			CHARACTER OF CASE INFORMATION CONCERNING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On Monday evening, July 31, 1939, subject over broadcasting station WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, delivered a political speech in which he attacked the Honorable Attorney General FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and Federal investigators for their activities in the investigation of certain matters in the State of Louisiana. Investigation developed subject is individual practicing attorney at New Orleans; is not outstanding lawyer; graduate of Loyola Law School; born New Orleans August 2, 1899; admitted to Louisiana Bar June 13, 1924; admitted practice United States District Court, New Orleans, December 3, 1928. Newspaper accounts mentioned subject as law associate of Governor EARL K. LONG. United States Attorney RENE VIOSCA, New Orleans, informed that Governor LONG contacted him and Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, Assistant Attorney General, August 2, 1939, and disapproved subject's radio speech. JAMES H. MORRISON, Hammond, Louisiana, organizer for the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, avowed anti-Louisiana administration citizen, bitterly attacked subject for his radio speech and particularly warned subject to leave the Honorable Attorney General, FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and decent and honest citizens of Louisiana alone, or he would put him in his place. Bureau informed by teletype of these developments.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

5 Bureau
2 New Orleans

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170 SEP 17 1964

AUG 11 A.M.
RECEIVED

AUG 15 1939

N. O. #62-987

DETAILS:

At New Orleans, Louisiana

On the evening of July 31, 1939, subject, SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY, delivered an address over broadcasting station WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, during which address he characterized Federal investigators in Louisiana, engaged in the investigation of Louisiana affairs, as "payroll boys", and criticized the Honorable Attorney General, FRANK MURPHY, for fooling around with the State's rights. WIMBERLY also criticized Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, Assistant Attorney General, for his presence in New Orleans, in connection with investigation of Louisiana affairs, and made remarks in his speech to Mr. ROGGE that his boss, Mr. MURPHY, might want to run for President on the Democratic ticket and, if so, there might be a few of us Louisiana boys who will take the stump in other states and tell the people of the Attorney General's activities in the State of Louisiana in connection with affairs of the state.

For information, subject maintains an office in the Pere Marquette Building, New Orleans, Louisiana, Room 1012, and on the panel of the door of this room number appears the following:

"LAW and NOTARIAL OFFICES"

EARL K. LONG
SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY
CLEM H. SEHRT
NICOLE E. SIMONEAUX
HARRY T. WILKINS"

The records of the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans, Louisiana, show that SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY was enrolled to practice in the United States District Court on December 3, 1928.

The confidential records of the Louisiana State Bar Association, Whitney Building, New Orleans, Louisiana, show that SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY, born at New Orleans, Louisiana, on August 2, 1899, was admitted to the practice of law on June 13, 1924, and is a graduate of Loyola University's Law School, New Orleans; that the subject joined the said bar association on July 3, 1924, and was dropped on April 9, 1926, on account of non-payment of dues. Mr. W. W. YOUNG, Secretary of the Louisiana State Bar Association, and associated with a very prominent law firm, stated that subject is not an outstanding lawyer; that very little is known of the subject by him.

The city directory for the City of New Orleans for the year 1938 shows SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY as a lawyer, with office at Room 1012, located at 150 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Louisiana (this is the Pere Marquette Building); resident address, 5665 Rosemary Place, New Orleans.

N. O. #62-987

The records of the New Orleans Retailers' Credit Bureau, Incorporated, American Bank Building, New Orleans, contain a report dated February 19, 1937, in the name of SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY, which report sets out information that this individual resides at 5665 Rosemary Place, New Orleans, is a native of New Orleans, about thirty-eight years old, married, and in business for himself in the practice of law at Room 1012 Pere Marquette Building; that the subject has been an attorney since 1924, is a graduate of Loyola University, 1924; that his character is well regarded, and his record of thrift is only fair, that his worth is little. As to real estate, the report shows that on September 9, 1936, the subject purchased a piece of property at Rosemary Place for \$5,542.72, and paid cash of \$400.00 and assumed a mortgage of \$4,777.00. The said report also shows that three suits in the amounts of \$300.00, \$124.00 and \$20.00 were filed against the subject during the years 1930 and 1935, against which judgments were rendered. This report shows that the subject seems to have succeeded in building up a fair clientele which apparently yields him a living, although no definite estimate of his income could be obtained, and that, in addition to his law practice, he also holds the position of Assistant Attorney for one of the State departments, which pays him a moderate salary.

Mr. RENE VIOSCA, United States Attorney, New Orleans, informed that during the regime of HUEY P. LONG subject SHIRLEY WIMBERLY was connected or aligned with FRANCIS WILLIAMS, candidate for mayor of the city of New Orleans, and that WILLIAMS was a bitter opponent of HUEY P. LONG; that the WILLIAMS faction used WIMBERLY considerably in the political fight against HUEY P. LONG, and that WIMBERLY was considered erratic and vicious. Mr. VIOSCA informed that he was appointed United States Attorney in New Orleans in the year of 1933, and that at that time subject WIMBERLY was a very active candidate for appointment as Assistant United States Attorney; that the FRANCIS WILLIAMS crowd got NICOLE E. SIMONEAUX, an attorney of New Orleans, to talk to him relative to WIMBERLY'S appointment for the position of Assistant United States Attorney, and that he, Mr. VIOSCA, told Mr. SIMONEAUX he would not have WIMBERLY because he was not level-headed enough, and was too erratic and abusive, and that his acts in political activities did not qualify him for the position. Mr. VIOSCA informed further that WIMBERLY'S reputation is shady from hearsay information. Further, Mr. VIOSCA informed that on Tuesday, August 1, 1939, Mr. EARL CHRISTENBERRY, Secretary to Governor EARL K. LONG, from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, telephoned to his brother, Mr. PERBERT W. CHRISTENBERRY, Assistant United States Attorney, at New Orleans, that Governor LONG disapproved of WIMBERLY'S speech the night of July 31st, and that the Governor would visit the United States Attorney in person to make known his views relative to WIMBERLY'S speech. Mr. VIOSCA stated that on Tuesday afternoon, at about five o'clock, Governor LONG personally appeared at his office and in the presence of Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, Assistant Attorney General, disavowed or disapproved the WIMBERLY speech, and that on this occasion Governor LONG stated that

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WIMBERLY was never a law partner of his, but that WIMBERLY only had desk space in the same office which he, Governor LONG, had occupied in the Pere Marquette Building; that WIMBERLY only shared office expenses the same as other attorneys in that office.

On Wednesday afternoon, August 2, 1939, Mr. JAMES H. MORRISON, of Hammond, Louisiana, organizer for the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, and bitter toward the Louisiana State Administration, delivered a radio address over Station WJBO of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, in which he particularly criticized WIMBERLY for his radio speech of July 31st. In this speech MORRISON accused WIMBERLY of being a polliwog and worthless character, and bitterly warned him to leave the Honorable Attorney General, FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and the decent and honest citizens of the State of Louisiana alone. In plain words, Mr. MORRISON admonished WIMBERLY that if he had anybody to jump on to jump on him, as he, MORRISON, would very quickly and readily put him in his place, the same as he had done before. Mr. MORRISON in his speech spoke highly of the splendid work the Attorney General and his aides were doing in the State of Louisiana.

Mr. RENE VIOSCA informed that although he did not hear WIMBERLY'S speech and was only told of what WIMBERLY had said by some of his assistants, he would independently of any investigation conducted by this office endeavor to secure from the WDSU radio station a copy of WIMBERLY'S speech for study and for the purpose of determining whether or not WIMBERLY was in contempt of court; that is, whether his speech contained such matter as to intimidate witnesses, jurors, and so on. Mr. VIOSCA later informed that he had talked to the principals of WDSU radio station and was informed that although they had a copy of WIMBERLY'S speech nothing was contained therein to indicate a violation of any Federal law, and that usually speakers elaborate on matters which are not contained in the radio speech, as was the situation in this case.

Mr. VIOSCA informed, however, that nothing further would be done by his office in this matter in view of the information furnished him by the management of WDSU relative to WIMBERLY'S speech.

CLOSED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **New Orleans, Louisiana**

N.O. FILE NO. **62-987**

REPORT MADE AT New Orleans, La.	DATE WHEN MADE Aug. 7, 1939	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE July 31 & Aug. 1-2, 1939	REPORT MADE BY J. G. PRYOR
TITLE SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY		CHARACTER OF CASE INFORMATION CONCERNING	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <p>On Monday evening, July 31, 1939, subject over broadcasting station WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, delivered a political speech in which he attacked the Honorable Attorney General FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and Federal investigators for their activities in the investigation of certain matters in the State of Louisiana. Investigation developed subject is individual practicing attorney at New Orleans; is not outstanding lawyer; graduate of Loyola Law School; born New Orleans August 2, 1899; admitted to Louisiana Bar June 13, 1924; admitted practice United States District Court, New Orleans, December 5, 1928. Newspaper accounts mentioned subject as law associate of Governor EARL K. LONG. United States Attorney RENE VIGSCA, New Orleans, informed that Governor LONG contacted him and Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, Assistant Attorney General, August 2, 1939, and disapproved subject's radio speech. JAMES H. MORRISON, Hammond, Louisiana, organizer for the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, avowed anti-Louisiana administration citizen, bitterly attacked subject for his radio speech and particularly warned subject to leave the Honorable Attorney General, FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and decent and honest citizens of Louisiana alone, or he would put him in his place. Bureau informed by teletype of these developments.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 New Orleans		<div style="height: 100px; border: 1px solid black;"></div>	

RECORDED

ACH:GAJ

62-32109-243

August 19, 1939

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. S. M. Sackett
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
1308 Masonic Temple Building
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

RE: WILLIAM GEORGE HELLS

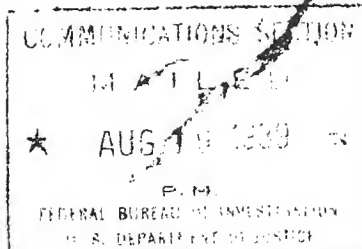
Reference is made to your letter dated August 11, 1939, wherein you advised that Assistant Attorney General O. John Rogge has requested an investigation relevant to a possible perjury violation on the part of William George Hells.

The Bureau instructs that you advise Mr. Rogge that the requested perjury investigation, having arisen from a matter not within our original investigative jurisdiction, should be referred to the agency having investigative jurisdiction over the substantive complaint.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy



ACK 5/47
15

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

New Orleans, Louisiana
August 11, 1939

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS

With a view of possible prosecution for perjury and false oath by WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS in connection with the securing of a passport or citizenship papers and in registering a yacht, Assistant United States Attorney General O. JOHN ROGGE has requested this Bureau to make investigation to specifically determine the following:

1 - Was WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS a voter in Kankakee, Illinois in 1916?

2 - When he enlisted in the National Guard in Missouri about 1918, did he make any statement as to citizenship?

3 - Did HELIS try to register a yacht at New Orleans in 1936 which was denied him because of his not being a citizen and did HELIS then transfer title to his son so it could be registered?

4 - Obtain photostatic copy of AGO Record of HELIS relative to his registration in Kansas City, Missouri, June 5, 1917, when he claimed he was not a citizen.

The file in the office of the United States Attorney at New Orleans has been reviewed and it contains quite a bit of correspondence between the Director of Naturalization at New Orleans and the Kansas City office of the Naturalization Bureau, being the file apparently built up by the New Orleans office of the Naturalization Bureau. By letter of June 6, 1938, the New Orleans office of the Naturalization Bureau requested information from the Kansas City office of the same bureau as to whether HELIS had filed declaration of intention at Morocco, Indiana, in 1913, he having indicated that such had been the case and that thereafter he had voted at Kankakee, Illinois, and considered himself a citizen, he claiming he was told by election officials that one having filed declaration of intention papers was entitled to vote. Advice was received from the Kansas City office to the effect that up until September 15, 1921, aliens having filed declarations in Indiana did vote. A letter dated July 21, 1938, from GEORGE J. HARRIS, District Director, Kansas City, Missouri, to the District Director of Immigration and Naturalization at New Orleans, advises that records of the National Guard are kept at Jefferson City, Missouri, and that all records on draft are at Washington, D. C., and suggests that the Adjutant General's Office be requested to furnish photostatic copy of HELIS'S questionnaire. A letter under date of July 26, 1938, from

COPIES DESTROYED

62-32507-243

RECORDED & INDEXED

AUG 12 1939

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED

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To the Director, 8/11/39

LEWIS M. MEANS, Adjutant General of the State of Missouri, Jefferson City, Missouri, to GEORGE J. HARRIS, Kansas City, Missouri, advises that the record of WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS shows that he was born at Trope, Greece, and that nothing was said about his citizenship in joining the National Guard. A letter under date of July 13, 1938, from J. F. DELANEY, Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, New Orleans, to the District Director of Immigration and Naturalization at Kansas City, Missouri, advises that HELIS claims he was born October 17, 1886, at Tropea, Greece. He claims declaration of intention was filed at Morocco, Indiana, July 24, 1913, in the county court, and that he was told by election officials that he was to all intents and purposes a citizen; that he believed that he was a citizen until recent date when he tried to get a passport and learned that he was still a citizen of Greece. HELIS also claimed he enrolled in Company L, 7th Regiment, Missouri National Guard, at Kansas City, Missouri, within two months after the United States entered the war, and that he served in the National Guard more than a year; that he was furloughed by Captain JONES, Commander of his company, to leave the state soon after the armistice was signed. He also claimed he was registered for draft at Kansas City, Missouri, in 1917, and was exempted because he was the father of four children. A letter dated August 9, 1938, Adjutant General's Office, War Department, to the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, United States Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., indicates that the records of WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS, Order #1209, Serial #1450, registered June 5, 1917, with Local Board #1 at Kansas City, Missouri, home address - 517 West 10th Street, Kansas City, Missouri - date and place of birth: October 15, 1886, Tropea, Greece; occupation - cook. He stated he was married and was a declarant alien, a citizen or subject of Greece. He executed a questionnaire and claimed classification in Class 4A (a man whose wife and children are mainly dependent on his labor for support). Under Series 7 - "Citizenship", of the questionnaire, he stated he was ^{not} a citizen of the United States, and that he did not claim exemption because he was not a citizen. He did not fill out the remaining questions under Series 7. The local board classified him in Class 4A. The records do not show that he was inducted into or otherwise entered the Military Service of the United States during the World War.

In the file was contained a photostat of application "Master's Oath" - "License of an Enrolled Vessel" - under date of October 5, 1936, signed by WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS. A part of the oath indicated that he stated he was a citizen of the United States, born in Illinois. There was also noted in the file a copy of a bill of sale from EDWARD BUTCHER TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, 208 Broadway, Houston, Texas, selling the yacht (DOCTOR BRINKLEY) to WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS.

It was learned that a photostatic copy of the AGO Record of WILLIAM HELIS, as mentioned in this letter, had already been

To the Director, 8/11/39

requested of the Adjutant General's Office by the United States Attorney's Office.

ALFRED TETON, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, who is handling this matter, advised that the local Immigration office had apparently had so much pressure put on them to permit citizenship papers to be issued to HELIS that they would, perhaps, not make a good investigation. He did not indicate, however, that they had ever been requested to investigate this matter.

WILLIAM HELIS, according to the best information available, is presently in Greece, negotiating for some oil wells. WILLIAM HELIS owns or is connected with a number of oil companies in Louisiana and is reported to be associated with ROBERT MAESTRI, the present Mayor of New Orleans.

In view of the fact that this perjury or false oath grows out of matters not within the original investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau, it is requested that this office be advised whether to proceed with the investigation. Mr. ROGGE has requested that it be expedited.

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett
B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge

JVB:sh

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

August 18, 1939

ACH:LL

62-32509-240, 241, and 242

62-32509-242

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: CRIME CONDITIONS - LOUISIANA

Dear Sir:

There are inclosed herewith two photostatic copies of the following described communications, which were received in the Office of the Attorney General and referred to the Bureau, and it is desired that one copy be furnished by your office to United States Attorney Rene A. Viosca, New Orleans:

Letter dated at Shreveport, Louisiana, August 2, 1939, from Mr. Donald Scott, together with its inclosure.

Anonymous letter beginning "Proceeds from Jefferson Parish....," postmarked at New Orleans, August 3, 1939.

Letter dated at Shreveport, Louisiana, August 3, 1939, from United States Attorney Harvey G. Fields, Western District of Louisiana, together with its inclosure.

The letters from Mr. Scott and Mr. Fields have not been acknowledged by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

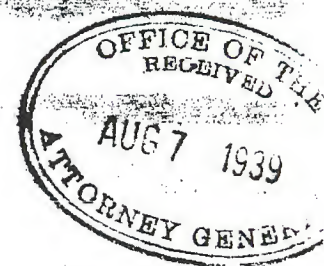
John Edgar Hoover
Director



Inclosure AUG 18 1939 ★

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

5 for T
R. Viosca



Shreveport, Louisiana,
August 3rd, 1939.

Honorable John O. Rogge,
Assistant Attorney General,
U.S. Attorney's Office,
New Orleans,
Louisiana.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED.

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62-32509-24

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 12 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

My dear Mr. Rogge:-

I sent you copy of letter written this morning to Viosca.

All other matters which affect the Western District have been transmitted to Mr. Paul Hansen at Baton Rouge, in accordance with your letter of some few weeks back.

Mr. Bull, of Fort Worth, has had his engineer present in our office and taken all PWA reports.

Mr. G.C. Crawford, with the Treasury Department, who has established offices in Shreveport, had a conference with me for several hours yesterday and went over all income tax matters that had been reported to us.

The Federal Agents, representing the Department of Interior and Hot Oil Division, under Mr. Martin, of Killgore, Texas, also arranged a conference between myself and their agents at Shreveport yesterday, and we have given data, information and reports turned in up to date, but today there was added to them the Cotton-Valley operations.

I remain ready to co-operate with you and Attorney General Murphy and if you think it advisable I will come to New Orleans and confer with you any time you suggest or deem it advisable.

The public in North Louisiana are in the main and in the majority exceedingly favorable to the investigations and are openly commending the Department of Justice.

The radio talk and attack made upon

8/18/39
S. H. W. L.
A. C. H.

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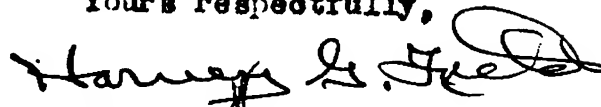
#2---JCH.

Aug. 3, 1939.

yourself and the Attorney General is very much regretted and resented in this section of the State and the general public is looking to our department for complete and efficient investigations.

Remaining ready to co-operate in anyway possible, I am,

Yours respectfully,



Harvey G. Fields, U.S.
Attorney- Western District of
Louisiana.

hgf/m.

Uphold Their Arms!

NO LOUISIANIAN ever need hang head in shame at the record Louisiana men and women have made whenever a war began in which this state was involved. Once the shooting started, Louisianians were there. Whether the flag that waved above them was the flag of France, Spain, the United States of America or the Confederate States of America, the call to arms always found Louisiana men ready to fight, Louisiana women backing them to the utmost. Louisiana courage, endurance, stand written in the pages of history in the red of Louisiana blood.

Today the call to arms sounds for every citizen of Louisiana. It is not, thank God, the call to shoulder rifles and march into the carnage of battlefields amid the thunder of guns. Though that would be easy, with bands playing, bugles blowing, flags aflutter, new uniforms, decorations and glory ahead, compared to entry into the conflict that rages through this state today.

The call that sounds to every Louisiana citizen today is a call to fight something worse than war, if anything could be worse than war. Louisiana's enemies in any war have been open and known, easy to identify by their own uniforms and flags. These peacetime enemies of Louisiana are in our midst. We must fight their betrayal of public trust, which is treason at home. We must fight men who call themselves Louisianians, but who have debauched and beamtrched, at home and abroad, the name of the state that is home to us all.

For years they have flaunted that debauchery in the faces of decent citizens. They have stolen and bragged about it. They have laughed and "wisecracked" with cheap witticisms at every protest honesty and honor have voiced. Arrogantly they have refused to answer questions; they have denied the public the sight of public records supposed to show where public money went. They have acted as if they believed this thing would last forever. But they are not laughing now.

In the United States postoffice building in New Orleans a United States grand jury sits in session today. With it sits O. John Rogge, assistant United States attorney-general in charge of criminal prosecutions. He was sent here, with an able staff, by United States Attorney-General Frank Murphy, from Washington. His orders are to probe to the bottom of such a slimy, fetid mass of corruption as Louisiana has not known since the Reconstruction days that followed the War Between the States. His orders are to spare nobody, no matter how high that person's "connections" reach, no matter how rich, how powerful.

And United States Attorney-General Murphy has promised Louisiana a stern, impartial federal forces of law enforcement, free of favoritism, thievery, corruption, and in which unspeakable conditions exist already in Louisiana, with the connivance and consent of official Louisiana men, political and political leaders. He gave this promise months ago, here in New Orleans, with J. Edgar Hoover, FBI chief, by his side. He told the national administration view of such alliances that corrupted elections, courts, pardon and parole boards; looted private pockets and public treasury alike. He said that the Judge Manton case in New York, the Tom Pendergast case in Kansas City, were only the opening guns of a nationwide war. And Attorney-General Murphy has backed his words with deeds. No indication of any Third Louisiana Purchase mars his record.

Indictments by that United States grand jury sitting now in New Orleans have rocked this state. The news of them has gone around the world. More of those federal indictments are to follow. And there can be even more, if the people of Louisiana who believe yet in honesty and decency only will do their part.

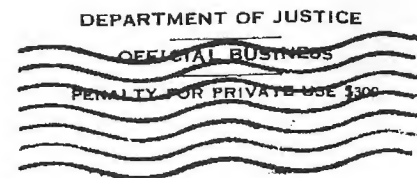
This is a call to arms for every citizen of Louisiana, man or woman. Those of you who know of crookedness in public office, of prostitution of public trust; of graft, thievery, corruption; now is the time for you to impart that knowledge to the man who has the power to punish; the man who wields the full power of the United States of America, mightiest nation in the world.

If you are a plain citizen working for a living, now is your time. Whether you are a contractor or an official in a contracting firm, now is your time. Whether you are the head or an official or a subordinate in a great corporation, now is your time. Whether you are an independent oil operator or part of a great oil corporation, now is your time. The state of Louisiana has enriched many, honestly. The state of Louisiana has provided a decent living for many, honestly. The state of Louisiana has fallen into the hands of men who have prostituted their trust. You owe the state of Louisiana, your home, at least this much; if you know of crookery, put that knowledge in the hands of the men who can punish crookery.

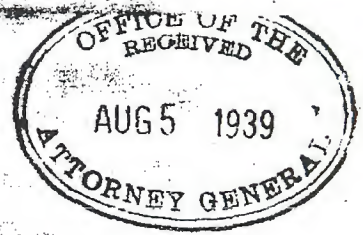
The man fighting your fight, the man you can help, is O. John Rogge, assistant United States attorney-general. You can reach him at the United States Postoffice Building, New Orleans, Louisiana, by letter or by personal call. He will hold in strictest confidence any information you give him. He will give you the fullest protection of the United States of America. Trained, veteran federal investigators will go out on the trail of the clues that you can supply. They have the authority, the ability, to command answers of those who have laughed in your faces when you have asked questions; who have told you: "The fishing is good at the mouth of the Mississippi river."

And the thanks of every decent citizen of Louisiana will be yours for the show you put on for decency and honesty in government. This is the showdown. This is the time for the bluff. You have a duty that is the best privilege of a democracy, where you can throw the rascals out without armed solution. Uphold the arms of the men who are fighting for you, your children, and your children's children. Pick up the weapon your national government has handed you. Use it against the crooks in high places.

WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO
OFFICE OF
HARVEY G. FIELDS
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA



Honorable Frank Murphy,
Attorney General,
Washington D.C.



ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

1. Proceeds from Jefferson Parish school bonds. Land purchased from school board members and politicians far in excess of value. 1939
2. 35,000 Jefferson Parish school pay roll released by Canal bank 1938-39
3. 10,000 left over in Jefferson parish school funds. 1937-38.
4. Materials and contracts: Kenner gymnasium, Jefferson Parish, school fuel, janitors bathrooms and other school supplies.
5. Approximately 100,000 royalty belonging to Jefferson lake oil collected by the state in a suit against Jefferson salt co.
6. Registration in St. Bernard and Orleans parishes.
7. 50 - 100 a day collections from gambling houses, Jefferson parishes and St Bernard parishes. Real owner of slot machines
8. Take offs from oil stations and jobs. Vic Petrie of Jefferson parish collects 1/2 of a teacher's salary for his daughter. She is in college, not teaching.

The money is said to have been deposited to a personal account., 5,000 to Jefferson Parish Review. Adds alone should have paid for it

Why does the Federal Gov. not require all states to use voting machines so that politicians ~~manipulate~~ through their spies and experts can not check upon the votes of an individual.

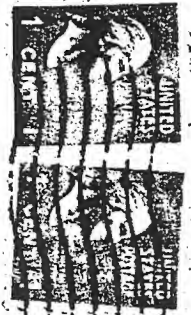
8/18/39
J. H. C.
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62-32509-241
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 11 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Attorney-General Frank Murphy

Washington D. C.



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Official Indicated below by check mark

MEMORANDUM

Solicitor General Jackson
 Assistant to the Attorney General
 Assistant Attorney General Arnold
 Assistant Attorney General Meyer
 Assistant Attorney General Whitaker
 Assistant Attorney General Little
 Assistant Attorney General McMahon
 Assistant Solicitor General Bell
 Mr. Hoover, Dir., Fed. Bu. of Investigation
 Mr. Bennett, Director of Prisons
 Mr. Martin, Director of War Risk Bureau
 Mr. Lawrence, Dir., Bond and Spirits Division
 Mr. Quinn, Administrative Assistant
 Mr. Kemp, Special Assistant
 Mr. Holtzoff, Special Assistant
 Board of Parole
 Mr. Lyons, Pardon Attorney
 Mr. McClure, General Agent
 Mr. Donaldson, Chief Clerk
 Mr. Hill, Appointment Clerk
 Mr. Crain, Division of Records
 Mr. Holland, Division of Supplies
 Mr. McKaith, Librarian
 Mr. Carusi
 Mr. Dean
 Miss Bumgardner
 Mr. Gates
 Mr. Hedetniemi
 Miss LaHue
 Miss Walters
 Mr. Euwer

Mr. Coffey
 Mr. Egan
 Mr. Gurnea
 Mr. Lavelle
 Mr. Harbo
 Mr. Lester
 Mr. Lawler
 Mr. Nichols
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Sears
 Mr. Quinn Tamm
 Mr. Tracy
 Miss Gandy

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*shown to
Attorney
8-4-39*

DECODED COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 3 - 1939

TELETYPE

Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gandy

add Brenna

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-3-39

6-45 PM WM

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&
INDEXED

62-32509-240

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 18 1939

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. GOVERNOR EARL K

LONG, THROUGH NEWSPAPERS, MADE STATEMENTS DISAVOWING RADIO SPEECH

OF SHIRLEY WIMBERLY. JAMES MORRISON, ORGANIZER OF LOUISIANA

FARMERS PROTECTIVE UNION, HAMMOND, LOUISIANA THROUGH BROADCASTING

STATION WDSU, NEW ORLEANS AND WJBO, BATON ROUGE, LAST NIGHT IN RADIO

SPEECH BITTERLY DENOUNCED WIMBERLY IN HIS RADIO ADDRESS AND DEFENDED

US ATTORNEY GENERAL MURPHY HIS ASSISTANTS, AND THE GOOD PEOPLE OF

LOUISIANA IN INVESTIGATION INTO CORRUPTION IN LOUISIANA. NEWSPAPERS

INDICATE INVESTIGATION OF WPA, CONNALLY ACT AND INCOME TAX VIOLATIONS

BEING STARTED IN WESTER DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA. JAMES MONROE SMITH

RETURNED FEDERAL JAIL NEW ORLEANS TODAY MATHEW S BRANIFF, ATTORNEY

DROPPED ATTEMPTS TO OUST CHARLES A BYRNE, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT

ATTORNEY, FROM OFFICE. USA RENE A VIOSCA, NEW ORLEANS, INFORMED

CONFIDENTIALLY THAT U S GRAND JURY PRESENTLY INVESTIGATING VIOLATIONS

OF THE CONNALLY ACT IN WHICH SEYMOUR WEISS, FORMER GOVERNOR

RICHARD LECHE, DOCTOR JAMES A SHAW ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL OF

LOUISIANA, JAMES OCONNOR AND POSSIBLY OTHERS ARE INVOLVED.

*Source Confident in Louisiana
Radio Station
8-3-39*

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PAGE TWO

BRIEFLY THE FACTS ARE THAT SEYMOUR WEISS ADVISED EAST TEXAS OIL COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE HE WOULD HAVE TO PAY HIM TEN CENTS PER BARREL TO RUN OIL. WEISS AND RICHARD LECHE THEN HAD ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL OF LOUISIANA OCONNOR COME TO CONFERENCE WHERE HE WAS REQUESTED TO RENDER LEGAL OPINION, AND WAS ADVISED BY WEISS INVESTIGATION HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE. ROBERT MAESTRI WAS IN HOT SPRINGS ARKANSAS AT THE TIME RECUPERATING FROM SICKNESS BUT HE SIGNED THE ORDER THERE BASED ON THE LEGAL OPINION OF OCONNOR.

MAESTRI NOW DENIES HE KNEW WEISS WAS TO GET TEN CENTS PER BARREL AND STATES HE WOULD NOT HAVE SIGNED IT HAD HE KNOWN THIS. WEISS GOT ONE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS, GIVING REPRESENTATIVE EAST TEXAS OIL COMPANY FOURTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS, LECHE SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND KEPT A LIKE AMOUNT. LECHE IN INCOME TAX RETURN SHOWS NINETY THOUSAND DOLLARS OF THIS CAME FROM WEISS AND INCOME TAX RETURN OF WEISS SHOWS HE PAID SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO LECHE. THE FOREGOING OCCURED IN NINETEEN THIRTY SIX. SINCE RECEIPT THIS INFORMATION O. JOHN ROGGE INFORMED THAT HE HOPES TO HAVE RETURNED ON MONDAY THREE INDICTMENTS THESE MATTERS NAMELY ONE INDICTMENT AGAINST

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PAGE THREE

RICHARD LECHE AND SEYMOUR WEISS CONTAINING TWO COUNTS, ONE CHARGING CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE THE ~~CON~~ CONNALLY ACT AND THE SECOND COUNT CHARGING CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD THE UNITED STATES. THE SECOND INDICTMENT WILL BE AGAINST SEYMOUR WEISS FOR VIOLATION OF THE INCOME TAX LAW WHICH INDICTMENT WILL BRING OUT ■ TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS REPORTED IN THE NAME OF LOUIS LESAGE. THE THIRD INDICTMENT WILL BE AGAINST SEYMOUR WEISS AND LESAGE CHARGING CONSPIRACY TO EVADE INCOME TAX NAMELY CHARGING LESAGE WITH ASSISTING WEISS IN EVADING HIS INCOME TAX.

B. E. SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC GMC

29

DONALD SCOTT

Realtor

RICOU-BREWSTER BLDG., SHREVEPORT, LA.

2-7718

OFFICE OF THE
RECEIVED

AUG 5 1939

ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 2, 1939.

Hon. Frank Murphy,
United States Attorney General,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The ~~Caddo~~ Taxpayers Association wishes to congratulate you and your associates upon the splendid work you are doing in bringing about a clean-up in Louisiana's political affairs.

Enclosed is a clipping from a Shreveport newspaper published July 28, which gives details of a suit filed here against our police jury. It is our Association's desire and request that you do not confine your investigation to New Orleans and Baton Rouge but that you enlarge them to include Shreveport and Caddo Parish.

Our Association stands ready and willing to assist you in any possible way.

RS/s

Yours very truly,

Donald Scott, President,

Donald Scott
Donald Scott,
President.

8/18/39

Set. N.C.

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65-34501-241
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 11 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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Law Violations By Jurors Cited; Injunction Asked

Shreveport Contractors, Citing Failure of Jurors to Advertise for Bids, Allege Long List of Law Violations; Charge Sales Made by DeGeneres and Williamson Firms to Parish for Equipment

Listing numerous allegations of law violations by the Caddo parish police jury, a petition was filed in district court here yesterday by the Associated General Contractors of America, Shreveport chapter, seeking an order restraining the jury from buying equipment or doing new construction work in excess of \$500 without advertising for bids.

Described in the petition were: purchases by the police jury of equipment from Earl G. Williamson, Vivian, president of the jury; alleged purchases from DeGeneres brothers of which Harold DeGeneres, police juror, is a partner; construction of a fish pond on land belonging to L. J. Mathieu; thorough partial use of parish-owned equipment; alleged improvements in Jacobs subdivision in which stockholders of the Shreveport Railway company own considerable property while J. L. Worsham, railways company employe, is chairman of the police jury road committee. Several other allegations having to do with police jury expenditures were contained in the petition.

The petition asserts that the contractors, residents of Caddo parish, "are entitled to compliance by the police jury with the laws of the state concerning new works" in order that they may bid on such construction. The injunction is asked in the name of Ashton Glassell, president of the local association of contractors.

The petition declares that the jury has never advertised for bids on new construction; has sometimes accepted bids on equipment which

(Continued On Page Eleven)

ALLEGED JURY VIOLATES LAW ON WORK BIDS

(Continued From Page One.)

were not low bids; that jury purchases often split into sums of less than \$500 to evade the law, and that unless the jury is restrained the permitting contractors and the general public "will suffer irreparable injury."

The filing of the petition came after L. Percy Garrow, attorney representing the contractors, had twice appeared before the police jury asking that they pass a resolution to "abide by the law in the future." The jury refused to do this, taking the stand that they would be admitting fault by such a resolution and stating that they had not to their knowledge, violated any law.

Review Laws on Bids
The suit cites that part of the state law which is allegedly violated, act 22 of 1898 of the general assembly of the state of Louisiana as amended by act 18 of 1920 which provides:

"No police jury shall be interested directly or indirectly in any contract the payment of which comes out of his parish; nor shall they be allowed to deal in their parish property."
It also sets out act 78 of 1926 as amended by act 150 of 1928 and by act 30 of 1935, fourth extra session.

"All public work to be done exceeding the sum of five hundred dollars, by any parochial, municipal or other public corporation or political subdivision of the state, or for the purchase of materials or supplies, shall be advertised and let by contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The act further provides that the procedure herein shall not be necessary in cases of extreme public emergency or for labor necessary to the maintenance of public works built and completed."

The \$10,000 auto purchase immediately following these allegations is the allegation that William Mon, executive officer of Williamson Motors, Inc., Vivian, a stockholder in the corporation and president of the police jury sold to the jury automobiles and trucks to the extent of \$10,140.64. These were bought by the jury without advertising for bids, the suit states.

Excavated Private Lake

The ninth paragraph alleges that the police jury recently excavated a private lake or fish pond on land belonging to L. J. Mathieu for the price of \$483.92 and that "your petitioner is informed and believes and, therefore, alleges that the said price is about one-third the price that The pond is described as being 350 feet long, 75 feet wide at the base and from 4 1/2 to 17 1/2 feet deep; that the lake or embankment is five feet wide, and further alleges that a drag line belonging to the parish was a member of the said police jury."

mentioned parts were purchased by the police jury, Harold Degeneres during the time that all of the above mentioned parts were purchased by the police jury, Inc., sending a bill to the police jury, and that Harvester company, Inc., sending a bill to the police jury, the International Harvester company, Inc., from the place of business of the International Harvester company, Inc., some of said parts were sent directly to the police jury at first prices; that said police jury at first prices; that dealers prices, and were sold to the national Harvester company, Inc., at the price of \$483.92 and that "your petitioner is informed and believes and, therefore, alleges that the said price is about one-third the price that The pond is described as being 350 feet long, 75 feet wide at the base and from 4 1/2 to 17 1/2 feet deep; that the lake or embankment is five feet wide, and further alleges that a drag line belonging to the parish was a member of the said police jury."

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Street Work in Subdivision

The petition says that the police jury gravelled and black-topped several streets in the Jacobs subdivision of Caddo parish "pursuant to an agreement between the police jury and the owners of lots that adjoin said streets . . . by which the owners agreed to pay for only the materials used . . . the police jury donating the necessary labor and use of its equipment amounted to in this case; and that the police jury proposes to top under similar circumstances all the streets in Jacobs subdivision. This allegation coincides with the statement that the chairman of the road committee of the Caddo police jury is J. L. Worham, an employee of the Shreveport Railway company, and that the stockholders of the Shreveport Railway company own much property in the Jacobs subdivision."

Expenses Not Itemized
It is further alleged that J. C. Williamson and J. L. Worham, other members of the jury make trips on official business with their expenses paid by the police jury. Their expenses, the petition states, are not itemized since the jury "takes the position that it is impracticable for the above mentioned members to render itemized statements due to the fact that it is often necessary for them to entertain, and that they tender accounts of total expenses."

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The petition asserts that the present administration of the Caddo parish police jury has never advertised for bids for the construction of any work or project whatsoever; that it has never received bids in connection with these; that it has never let or awarded a contract for the construction of any work or project to the lowest bidder.

Take Bids Not Lowest

It also alleges that when equipment costing more than \$500 is purchased the jury sometimes advertises for and receives bids . . . but that "equipment is sometimes purchased from a bidder who is not the lowest bidder."

In the year 1938, the petition says, the jury spent \$282,357.17 for roads and bridges; and from Jan. 1 to May 31, 1939, it spent for the same purposes \$116,380.31, neither of which sums included expenditures for tools and equipment. "During the above-mentioned periods of time," the petition says, "many purchases were made by the police jury exceeding \$500; that . . . said purchases were made without advertis-

ing for bids and without receipt of bids; that therefore no purchase was made from one who was the lowest bidder."

In these expenditures, it is alleged, materials were purchased for use in the construction of new works . . . and that exorbitant prices were paid by the police jury for materials and equipment.

In the illegal construction of new works by the police jury, the costs of which exceed the sum of \$500, "about twice as much is expended as would be expended if the police jury would comply with Act 73, of 1926, as amended." (Calling for bids).

\$1,320 Spent on Construction

Going further into compensation paid members of the jury for meetings and expenses of trips, the petition says that before the present administration of the police jury all such expenditures amount to amount to about \$1,200 per year. Expenses of conventions then were paid out of jury members own funds, the petition said.

Amounts spent by the present jury are far in excess of this, it is alleged, the sum of \$1,320 having been spent in connection with the Baton Rouge convention alone.

Additional new projects which allegedly have been completed which cost in excess of \$500 and for which there was no advertising of bids were the Seventieth street road, two bridges costing \$5,094.41 over streams that intersected the road; Blanchard road, \$14,186.33; Blanchard-Dixie road, \$14,443.88; Jewella road, \$6,600.04, and Midway road, \$12,510.86.

The 18th paragraph alleges that no contract was awarded the lowest bidder on the Springridge camp, a maintenance camp for the parish, which includes a residence for John Rakb, maintenance foreman. The cost of the camp is said to have been \$2,109.87.

Mr. Williamson is in Havana, Cuba, on vacation. Mr. Clawson, secretary of the jury, is in Baton Rouge attending a meeting of a State Police Jury Association fact-finding committee. Mr. Worsham, when asked he had any comment to make, he had none.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Official Indicated Below by check mark

MEMORANDUM

Solicitor General Jackson

Assistant to the Attorney General

Assistant Attorney General Arnold

Assistant Attorney General Morris

Assistant Attorney General Whitaker

Assistant Attorney General Littell

Assistant Attorney General McMahon

Assistant Solicitor General Bell

Mr. Hoover, Dir., Fed. Bu. of Investigation

Mr. Bennett, Director of Prisons

Mr. Martin, Director of War Risk Bureau

Mr. Lawrence, Dir., Bond and Spirits Division

Mr. Quinn, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Kemp, Special Assistant

Mr. Holtzoff, Special Assistant

Board of Pardon

Mr. Lyons, Pardon Attorney

Mr. McClure, General Agent

Mr. Donaldson, Chief Clerk

Mr. Hill, Appointment Clerk

Mr. Crain, Division of Records

Mr. Holland, Division of Supplies

Mr. McKavitt, Librarian

Mr. Carusi

Mr. Dean

Miss Bumgardner

Mr. Gates

Mr. Hedetniemi

Miss Laflue

Miss Wallers

Mr. Ewer

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. Nathan ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Glavin ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☒
Mr. Rosen ☒
Mr. Tracy ☒
Miss Gandy ☒

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 2, 1939

EAT:HA

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Miss Lahue requested me to come to the Attorney General's office at once and when I arrived there the Attorney General had in his office a Mr. "Paddy" Costello, whom he introduced to me as a man who had soldiered with him during the War. The General stated that Feldman, Costello, a Mr. Moriarty who was also in the room but who evidently was not with Costello, and the Attorney General had all been soldiers together. Briefly, it appears that Costello has resided in Louisiana for a number of years and desires to furnish in extended detail the story of the corruption of two million people in Louisiana. It appears however that the individual who has most of the detailed information is a Mr. Alexis who has accounts, books and records, etc. The Attorney General has agreed to see Alexis together with Costello at eleven o'clock tomorrow morning but before that time he desires that Alexis and Costello be interviewed and a brief memorandum sent to him. The Attorney General indicated he desired somebody in the Bureau to interview these people, he emphasizing this by saying on several occasions "some persons" and a memorandum furnished him by eleven o'clock tomorrow morning. I have arranged for Mr. Sears and Supervisor Hayden to interview these people starting at once and two Stenographers have been kept in order that a proper memorandum can be prepared concerning the results of the interview.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

COPIES DESTROYED

173 SEP 17 1964

EAT:GVC

Time: 11:07 a.m.

August 1, 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

The Attorney General called about some remarks made by a Mr. Winberly and I told him the Bureau would get a discreet line on him and find out just what his background is.

E. A. TAMM

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-32509-238

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

AD. DIV.

U.S. MAR. 1938

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TWO

ORIGINAL FILED IN 5-113

36

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

New Orleans, Louisiana
August 8, 1939

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS -
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto are copies of the three indictments which were returned at New Orleans, Louisiana, August 7, 1939, being described as follows:

- (1) United States of America vs. RICHARD W. ~~LECHE~~, SEYMOUR WEISS, FREEMAN W. ~~BURFORD~~ and EAST TEXAS REFINING COMPANY.
- (2) United States of America vs. SEYMOUR WEISS.
- (3) United States of America vs. SEYMOUR WEISS and LOUIS C. ~~LE~~ SAGE.

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett
B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge.

CND
PMH
62-978

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-32509-237

62-32509-3
AUG 8 1939
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
AUG - 7 1939
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington

Respectfully,

RECORDED & INDEXED

"The Louisiana State Officials, Informa-
tion concerning James M. Brown, Equities,
Inc., who was intermeddling power for
James Monroe Smith, advised he had received
information from confidential source to
effect that if any attack is made by
Government or by O. John Rogers on this
timberly as result of timberly's speech
a story would be circulated to effect that
Alfred E. Teton, Special Assistant to
Attorney General, who is now in New Orleans,
roomed with a negro while attending Columbia
University and that Teton was telling the
negro they will get equal rights. Newspaper
stories indicated Teton was formerly con-
nected with the Civil Liberties Division
of the Department. From conversations with
Teton by Agent of this office prior to
receipt of this information, Teton advised
he had attended University of Chicago and
did not mention having attended Columbia
University. It is believed that should
this allegation that Teton roomed with a
negro be true, and should it be circulated
in this section of the country it would have
a detrimental effect on cases presently
pending here."

I have received the following teletype message
from my Special Agent in Charge at New Orleans, Louisiana,
which I wanted to transmit to you immediately

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 7, 1939

EX-100

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 5-162-112

CARBON
COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 27 1939

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-27-39 9-17 PM AHS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. E. E. TETON, SPECIAL ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, IS IN NEW ORLEANS TO ASSIST O. JOHN ROGGE. HAROLD ROSENWALD, SPECIAL ASSISTANT, AND EARL CROWDER, TAX DIVISION, BOTH DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, SCHEDULED ARRIVE NEW ORLEANS SHORTLY TO ASSIST IN INCOME TAX CASES. JAMES MONROE SMITH, ~~MONROE~~ SEYMOUR WEISS, MONTE HART, J. EMORY ADAMS AND LOUIS LESAGE ARE CHARGED IN STATE COURT, NEW ORLEANS, WITH EMBEZZLEMENT AND SMITH ADDITIONALLY WITH FORGERY AND OPERATING CONFIDENCE GAME. DR. JAMES A. SHAW, HEAD OF MINERALS DIVISION OF STATE ~~CONSERVATION~~ CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT AND WILLIAM G. RANKIN, FORMERLY LOUISIANA CONSERVATION COMMISSIONER, ADMITTED RECEIVING APPROXIMATELY THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM OIL COMPANIES, SHAW ADMITTING HE PAID NO INCOME TAX ON THIS. RICHARD W. LECHE CALLED BEFORE FEDERAL GRAND JURY, NEW ORLEANS, TODAY, BUT REFUSED TO WAIVE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, AND IS SCHEDULED TO AGAIN APPEAR TOMORROW. NO FEDERAL INDICTMENTS RETURNED NEW ORLEANS TODAY. STATE GRAND JURY, MONROE, LA., CONVENED IN SPECIAL SESSION YESTERDAY TO HEAR TESTIMONY OF IRREGULARITIES IN CONNECTION WITH LOUISIANA TRAINING INSTITUTE, BUSTON, LA.,

Extreme conditions in Louisiana

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 162-96X

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-32509-235

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

44

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THAM TWC ONE

117

THE WASHINGTON DC 9-27

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 2 1939

TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lowler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Seare
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-2-39 555PM WH

DIRECTOR

RE SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY, ATTORNEY. ACCORDING TO RECORDS OF 1939
LOUISIANA BAR ASSOCIATION NEW ORLEANS, WIMBERLY BORN AUGUST SECOND
EIGHTEEN NINETEEN NINE AT NEW ORLEANS, GRADUATE OF LOYOLA UNIVERSITY
LAW SCHOOL, ADMITTED TO BAR JUNE THIRTEEN NINETEEN TWENTY FOUR, JOINED
THE SAID ASSOCIATION JULY THIRD NINETEEN TWENTY FOUR, AND WAS DROPPED
APRIL NINTH NINETEEN TWENTY SIX ACCOUNT NONPAYING OF DUES. SECRETARY
SAID ASSOCIATION STATES WIMBERLY NOT KNOWN TO HIM AND IS EVIDENTLY
NOT PROMINENT ATTORNEY. RECORDS OF US DISTRICT COURT, NEW ORLEANS,
SHOW WIMBERLY ENROLLED TO PRACTICE IN SAID COURT DECEMBER THIRD NINE-
TEEN TWENTY EIGHT. RECORDS NEW ORLEANS RETAIL CREDIT BUREAU INC NEW
ORLEANS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT DATED FEBRUARY NINETEEN, NINETEEN THIRTY
SEVEN, SHOWS WIMBERLY THIRTY EIGHT YEARS OLD, MARRIED, INDIVIDUAL
PARCTICING ATTORNEY SINCE NINETEEN TWENTY FOUR, CHRRACTER WELL REGARDED,
THRIFT FAIR, RESIDENCE NEW ORLEANS. THREE SMALL SUITS FILED IN YEARS
NINETEEN THIRTY AND NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE AGAINST WIMBERLY AGAINST
WHICH JUDGMENTS RENDERED. SAID RECORDS SHOW WIMBERLY SEEMS TO HAVE
SUCCEEDED IN BUILDING UP FAIR CLIENTELE WHICH APPARENTLY YIELDS HIM

62-32509-23
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 3 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RECORDS SECTION

Copy to Mr. Tamm 40

A LIVING. NO DEFINITE ESTIMATE OF HIS INCOME AVAILABLE. SAID RECORDS SHOW THAT HE ALSO HOLDS POSITION OF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY FOR ONE OF STATE DEPARTMENTS, WHICH PAYS HIM A MODERATE SALARY. CREDIT RATING SATISFACTORY.

USA RENE A VIOSCA, NEW ORLEANS, STATES WIMBERLY DURING REGIME OF HUEY P LONG WAS CONNECTED OR ALIGNED WITH FRANCIS WILLIAMS CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR OF NEW ORLEANS AND BITTER OPPONENT OF HUEY LONG, THAT THE WILLIAMS FACTION USED WIMBERLY CONSIDERABLY IN THE POLITICAL FIGHT AGAINST HUEY LONG AND THAT WIMBERLY WAS CONSIDERED ERATIC AND VICIOUS. MR VIOSCA INFORMED THAT WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED AS U S ATTORNEY IN NINETEEN THIRTY THREE WIMBERLY WAS A VERY ACTIVE CANDIDATE FOR APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT U S ATTORNEY, THAT THE FRANCIS WILLIAMS CROWD GOT ATTORNEY NICOLE E SIMONEAUX TO INTERCEDE FOR WIMBERLYS APPOINTMENT AND THAT HE, VIOSCA, TOLD SIMONEAUX HE WOULD NOT HAVE WIMBERLY BECUASE HE WAS NOT LEVEL HEADED ENOUGH, WAS ERATIC, ABUSIVE AND THAT HIS ACTS DID NOT QUALIFY HIM FOR THE OFFICE OF ASSISTANT US ATTORNEY, ALTHOUGH WIMBERLY IN HIS BELIEF HAS ABILITY AS A LAWYER. VIOSCA INFORMED THAT WIMBERLYS

REPUTATION IS SHADY. MR VIOSCA STATES GOVERNOR EARL K LONG APPEARED AT HIS OFFICE LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND STATED HE WANTED MR O JOHN ROGGE AND HIMSELF TO KNOW THAT HE DISAPPROVED OF WHAT WIMBERLY SAID IN HIS RADIO TALK AND THAT HE, LONG, HAD SENT A TELEGRAM TO HONORABLE ATTORNEY GENERAL FRANK MURPHY TO THAT EFFECT, THAT GOVERNOR LONG INFORMED THAT WIMBERLY WAS NEVER A LAW PARTNER OF HIS BUT THAT WIMBERLY ONLY OCCUPIED SPACE IN THE SAME OFFICE WITH HIM AND OTHER ATTORNEYS AND SHARED OFFICE EXPENSES. MR VIOSCA STATED THAT GOVERNOR EARL LONG STATED HE DID NOT FINANCE THE RADIO EXPENSES FOR WIMBERLYS SPEECH. MR VIOSCA OF HIS OWN ACCORD STATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT HEAR WIMBERLYS RADIO TALK THE MATTER WAS DISCUSSED WITH HIM BY SOME OF HIS ASSISTANTS, THAT AS A RESULT HE IS UNDER THE IMPRESSION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF THE EXISTENCE OF A CONTEMPT OF COURT VIOLATION BY WIMBERLY, BUT THAT IN ORDER TO PROPERLY PASS ON THAT MATTER HE PERSONALLY AND INDEPENDENT OF ANY BUREAU INVESTIGATION IN THE MATTER WAS GOING TO ENDEAVOR TO SECURE FROM W D S U RADIO STATION HERE A COPY OF WIMBERLYS SPEECH.

SACKETT

END

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DECODED COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 9 -1939

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Hayden

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-9-39

6-31PM

AHS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. O. JOHN ROGGE ADVISED NO VIOLATION DEVELOPED CONCERNING TRANSACTION WITH W. C. FEAZEL AND UNITED GAS COMPANY ABOUT WHICH BUREAU WAS ADVISED YESTERDAY. TODAY ROGGE CONFERRED WITH THIS OFFICE, ADVISING THAT HE WOULD BEGIN TOMORROW HAVING WITNESSES BEFORE THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN NEW ORLEANS IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATION OF THE PETIT JURY WHO TRIED ABE SHUSHAN IN OCTOBER NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE, ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP A JURY TAMPERING CASE.

SACKETT.

END

RECORDED & INDEXED

OK FBI WASH DC JAR

62-32509-233X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SE 2 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM JUNE

43

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

EAT:COH

August 9, 1939

Time; 9:15 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

RE: POLITICAL CORRUPTION IN
LOUISIANA

9
SAC Listerman called and inquired as to whether
any investigation is desired in connection
with the Shusham matter in New Orleans.

7
The Warden of the penitentiary at Atlanta called
Mr. Listerman and advised he has a very deaf
colored boy sent up on a forgery of a government
check charge who claims to have some information
about the bribe of \$100,000 paid in the Shusham
case.

I instructed Mr. Listerman to get all the informa-
tion the colored boy has and send the same to
SAC Sackett via air mail special delivery.

E. A. TALKER

62-5287-2

44

1508 Masonic Temple Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
August 7, 1939

Honorable Hans A. Viosca
United States Attorney
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS
Information Concerning

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed photostatic copies of the following communications which have been received by the Department and referred to the Bureau in connection with the above-entitled case, and related matters:

Anonymous letter dated July 19, 1939, signed "American";

Anonymous letter dated July 18, 1939, enclosing newspaper clippings from the New Orleans States and the Times-Picayune;

Two letters dated July 11, 1939 from Miss Agnes E. Lewis and enclosure;

Letter dated July 11, 1939, from Miss Annie C. Lewis;

Letter signed Robert Reed and enclosure;

Letter signed Georg Harrison;

Letter from J. C. Wigginton, enclosing clipping from New York Sun;

Letter signed T. S. Weber.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures
CWD:ALS
cc-Bureau

INDEXED

B. E. SACKETT
Special Agent in Charge

62-32577-237
AUG 9 1939
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

45

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New Orleans, Louisiana
August 5, 1939

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS
Information Concerning

Attached hereto is a copy of the "Farmers' Friend"
issued by the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, Inc., Hammond,
Louisiana, JAMES H. MORRISON being the President of the Louisiana
Farmers' Protective Union, Inc.

It will be noted that this paper is given as Volume 2,
Number 9, Hammond, Louisiana, August issue. However, this paper
was originally published as the issue of July 31, 1939. There was
such a great demand for these papers, it was evidently re-issued,
being identical to the July 31, 1939 edition except for the indica-
tion that the paper is the August issue.

It is reported that another issue of the Farmers'
Friend will be published about August 15, 1939, at which time a
copy of same will be obtained and forwarded the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett
B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure
CWD:sh
#62-978

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 8 1939
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ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

62-32509-232X

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
August 5, 1939**

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: Special Agent (A) NELSON PERRY;
ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that for the past week Special Agent (A) NELSON PERRY has been engaged in investigation in connection with the case entitled "LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS; Information Concerning" and related investigations, particularly investigation of the present petit jury panel in New Orleans.

Due to the expeditious nature of the investigation mentioned, it is anticipated that Agent PERRY will be engaged for at least another 10 days, thereon.

The Bureau will be kept advised in the premises.

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett
B. E. SACKETT
Special Agent in Charge

CWD:ALS

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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American Progress

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

62-32509-

49

Crime Conditions Louisiana + 8

August 2, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

There are attached hereto several teletype messages emanating from New Orleans, New York and Detroit which have not been furnished to the Attorney General. I thought you might want to have them in the event developments in the several cases concerned. It will be noted in the teletype from SAC Sackett dated August 1 that Rogge has requested an investigation of a Grand Juror in the belief that there is some leak on this request. No action has been taken upon

Respectfully,

R. A. Tamm

RECORDED

62-32509-231
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 2 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED

50

51
 HANKIN, FORMER CONSERVATION COMMISSIONER, AND POSSIBLY OTHER OFFICIALS.
 CONNELLEY ACT IN AN ATTEMPT TO INVOLVE ROBERT MAESTRI AND WILLIAM
 TODAY. THIS BEING DONE IN AN EFFORT TO DEVELOP A CONSPIRACY OF THE
 REPRESENTATIVES OF OIL COMPANIES TESTIFIED BEFORE FEDERAL GRAND JURY
 MR ROGGE, HEAD CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ADVISED
 U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
 62-32509-231
 RECORDED
 INDEXED
 FEDERAL GRAND JURY.

WHICH POSITION VACATED BY SEYMOUR WEISS AFTER WEISS WAS INDICTED BY
 PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, REFUSED PRESIDENCY NEW ORLEANS DOCK BOARD,
 ARRIVE NEW ORLEANS TODAY. A B PATTERSON, PRESIDENT OF THE NEW ORLEANS
 JAMES ROBERTS, COUNSEL FOR WPA HOUSE SUB COMMITTEE SCHEDULED TO
 WASHINGTON, ARRIVED NEW ORLEANS TODAY FOR CONFERENCE WITH HIS AGENTS.
 ELMER IREY, CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE UNIT, BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
 SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO FEDERAL CUSTODY IN NEW ORLEANS THURSDAY.
 HIS DAUGHTER MRS OWEN W WARE IS REPORTED CRITICALLY ILL. HE IS
 SMITH TRANSFERRED TO STATE CUSTODY BATON ROUGE TODAY BECAUSE
 LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. JAMES MONROE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-111

DIRECTOR

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-1-39

5-55PM

WH

TELETYPE
 AUG 1 - 1939
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*James & the
 Attorney General*

DECODED COPY

CARBOL COPY

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

PAGE TWO

MR ROGGE REQUESTED DISCREET INVESTIGATION OF J M ~~X~~SPEED, PRESENT
GRAND JUROR, BECAUSE OF AN ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION THAT SPEED
CONNECTED WITH MUNDET CORK COMPANY, SOLD BIG ORDERS TO NEW ORLEANS
CHARITY HOSPITAL, SO IN TURN SPEED IS GIVING INFORMATION TO
SEYMOUR ~~X~~WEISS, ROBERT MAESTRI AND POLITICIANS HERE, ROGGE BELIEVES
THERE IS SOME LEAK IN THE GRAND JURY AND THAT SPEED MIGHT BE THAT
LEAK.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC WV

52

1308 Masonic Temple Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
August 3, 1939

Honorable Rens A. Viosca
United States Attorney
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS;
Information Concerning

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are photostatic copies of the following-listed communications received by the office of the Attorney General:

Postal card postmarked Shreveport, Louisiana,
July 12, 1939, 12:30 p.m., signed "A Citizen";

Letter dated July 18, 1939, addressed to Honorable
Frank Murphy, signed L. J. Raphael, Sr., 244 E.
Alexander Street, New Orleans, Louisiana;

Letter dated June 28, 1939, New Orleans, Louisiana,
addressed to Mr. Eden Hardie, Jr., New Orleans,
Louisiana;

Letter dated July 19, 1939, addressed to the Attorney
General, signed "Louisiana Democrats";

Letter dated July 19, 1939, Covington, Louisiana,
addressed to the Attorney General;

Letter dated July 18, 1939, addressed to the Attorney
General, from Mrs. Wm. A. West, Jr.;

Undated letter, addressed to the Attorney General,
signed "American";

Letter dated July 18, 1939, signed "American";

Undated, anonymous letter, addressed to the
Attorney General, postmarked New Orleans, Louisiana,
July 11, 1939, 7:30 P.M.;

Anonymous letter dated July 10, 1939, addressed to
the Attorney General, together with newspaper clipping;

62-32509-
AUG 8 1939
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TWO

Crim. Co. - La. Louisiana

53

Mr. Rens A. Viosca - Page 2

August 3, 1939

Letter dated July 18, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed Frank M. Atwood;

Letter dated July 18, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed J. C. Corbin;

Newspaper clipping from The Times-Picayune June 23, 1939, New Orleans, Louisiana;

Letter dated July 14, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed "American";

Letter dated July 13, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed "A New Orleans Schoolgirl", together with newspaper clipping.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures

cc-Bureau

54

1308 Masonic Temple Building,
New Orleans, Louisiana

August 1, 1939

Honorable Rene Viosca,
United States Attorney,
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

RE: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS -
Information Concerning

I have received information from a responsible individual in New Orleans to the effect that there is some apparent irregularity in connection with the issuance of one million dollar Atchafalaya Levee Board bonds. It appears that about a year or so ago this issue of bonds, which was callable at 5%, was called at 3% and was then replaced with long term 5% bonds which were immediately sold for 117. It appears that the brokers, who were White and Gumbert and Schart and Jones of New Orleans, received as a result of such transaction about \$100,000.00.

It is not known who was involved in connection with the issuance of these bonds, nor does the person who furnished me this information have any further data or information of value. He requested that his name be kept in the strictest confidence and, therefore, in accordance with my promise to him, I am not supplying his name in this communication. It may be stated, however, that he is a responsible, substantial citizen in the community, and I am convinced that he has no further information other than given above.

I am transmitting this to you for such action as you deem appropriate. This office is conducting no investigation into the matter in the absence of any jurisdiction therein.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge

cc Bureau

BES:sh
#62-978

Note: Mr. Clark Salmon, Managing Editor of the Item-Tribune newspapers, New Orleans, furnished me with this information on July 31, 1939.

62-32509-
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 4 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TWO

55

(ed)

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-31-39 10-36 PM ABS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY IS AN ATTORNEY IN NEW ORLEANS PRESENTLY PRACTICING LAW WITH CLEM E. SEHRT. SEHRT IS A NEW ORLEANS WARD LEADER AND WAS FORMER LAW PARTNER OF GOVERNOR EARL K. LONG. INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED BY THIS OFFICE INDICATES WIMBERLY, SEHRT AND LONG STILL VERY CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH EACH OTHER IN ALL RESPECTS. WITHOUT ANY PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT, WIMBERLY TONIGHT, FROM EIGHT THIRTY TO NINE THIRTY, BROADCASTED A TALK OVER THREE RADIO STATIONS, NAMELY, ONE IN NEW ORLEANS, ONE IN BATON ROUGE AND ONE IN ALEXANDRIA, LA. WIMBERLY PAID FOR THE TIME OVER THESE THREE STATIONS. HE APPARENTLY SPOKE TO THE "COMMON PEOPLE" OF LOUISIANA, BITTERLY DENOUNCING THE NEWSPAPERS FOR THEIR CAMPAIGNS AGAINST THE LOUISIANA POLITICAL MACHINE AND CALLING UPON ALL THE COMMON PEOPLE TO CARRY OUT THE POLICIES OF HUEY LONG. HE BITTERLY DENOUNCED ATTORNEY GENERAL MURPHY, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE AND HIS STAFF, CHARGING THAT THEY ARE INTERFERING WITH THE RIGHT OF STATE GOVERNMENT BY INQUIRING IN TO THE ACTS OF THE STATE ADMINISTRATION. HE CALLED UPON THEM TO CONFINE THEIR INQUIRIES SOLELY TO POSSIBLE FEDERAL VIOLATIONS. HE DID NOT MENTION YOURSELF OR THE FBI IN ANY MANNER. HE CHARGED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL MURPHY AND ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE AND THEIR AIDES ARE PURE POLITICIANS WHO HAVE ADVANCED TO THEIR PRESENT POSITIONS THROUGH POLITICS. HIS STATEMENTS IN THIS REGARD COULD ALMOST BE CONSIDERED LIBELOUS. HE STATED THAT IF GENERAL MURPHY SEEKS THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION IN THE FUTURE, HE WILL TELL THE WHOLE COUNTRY OF GENERAL MURPHY'S INTERFERENCE WITH STATES RIGHTS IN LOUISIANA. WIMBERLY'S TIRADE INCLUDED STATEMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE RICH CONTROLLED THE NEWSPAPERS, THAT THEY WERE LITERALLY WIPING THEIR FEET UPON THE ORDINARY COMMON PEOPLE OF THE STATE AND THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE FOOLED BY THE STATEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE NEWSPAPERS AND GENERAL MURPHY'S ASSISTANT. WIMBERLY PROCLAIMED HIS FRIENDSHIP FOR EARL LONG. WIMBERLY INDICATED THAT HE WOULD MAKE MORE BROADCASTS IN THE FUTURE. ALONG THESE LINES, I WILL ATTEMPT TO SECURE THE TEXT OF HIS TALK AND WILL FORWARD SAME TO YOU.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-230

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AUG 1 1939

89

56

IN VIEW OF WIMBERLYS APPARENT CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH SEHRT AND EARL LONG, IT IS APPARENT THAT EARL LONG MUST HAVE KNOWN OF WIMBERLYS PROPOSED BROADCAST AND PROBABLY IT WAS FINANCED BY THE STATE POLITICAL MACHINE. WIMBERLYS TALK TONIGHT TO THE SO CALLED COMMON PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA IS EXACTLY THE SAME TYPE OF TALK THAT HUEY LONG USED IN HIS POLITICAL ACTIVITIES HERE AND WAS DELIVERED IN THE SAME BOMBASTIC, EARSPLITTING MANNER USED BY HUEY.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC WY

57

copy
(ed)

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-31-39 7-13 PM WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
GENERAL ROGGE HAS JUST REQUESTED THAT IT BE DETERMINED IF WILLIAM HELIS,
OWNER OF SEVERAL OIL COMPANIES INVOLVED IN THIS INVESTIGATION, WHO BECAME
A NATURALIZED CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES IN AUGUST NINETEEN THIRTY EIGHT,
REGISTERED THE YACHT NAMED WILLIAM HELIS NUMBER TWO BEFORE HE BECAME A CITIZEN
AND THE DATE OF REGISTRY THEREOF. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER INVESTIGATION SHOULD
BE CONDUCTED.

SEVERAL COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED RELATING TO WPA AND OTHER IRREGULARITIES
IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA. ADVISE IF THESE SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO
USA SHREVEPORT WHICH IS THE PROCEDURE FOLLOWED IN SUBMITTING INFORMATION TO USA
NEW ORLEANS OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC OEC

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-224

JF3

58

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-108

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 7 - 1939

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-7-39 10-08 PM AHS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. SEYMOUR WEISS
RELEASED TODAY TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND, LOUIS LESAGE TEN
THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND, RICHARD W. LECHE FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND.

PURSUANT MR. ROGGE'S REQUEST, THIS OFFICE CONCENTRATING ON
INVESTIGATION SHUSHAN JURY IN EFFORT TO COMPLETE INVESTIGATION
BY WEDNESDAY NIGHT AS MR. ROGGE INTENDS TO CALL WITNESSES BEFORE GRAND
JURY RELATIVE THIS MATTER BEGINNING THURSDAY MORNING. I HAVE EIGHT
AGENTS WORKING ON THIS MATTER.

RECORDED & INDEXED

TONIGHT BETWEEN ~~8:30~~ EIGHT THIRTY AND NINE THIRTY SHIRLEY G.
WIMBERLY BROADCASTED OVER ~~WDSU~~ RADIO STATION WDSU, NEW ORLEANS.
HIS TALK WAS ADDRESSED TO THE "POOR PEOPLE" OF THE STATE AND IN MAIN
WAS A TIRADE AGAINST THE NEWSPAPERS, PARTICULARLY THE NEW ORLEANS
TIMES PICAYUNE AND THE RICH PEOPLE, INCLUDING CORPORATION LAWYERS AND
ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE MEMBERS. HE CHARGED THAT THESE PEOPLE WERE
TRYING TO GET THE STATE GOVERNMENT AWAY FROM THE POOR PEOPLES OF
LOUISIANA BY LIES THROUGH THE CONTROL OF NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER PROPAGANDA.
HE CLAIMED ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE, ~~WHICH PUBLISHED STATEMENTS~~
~~CONCERNING~~ BY HIS PUBLISHED STATEMENTS URGING PEOPLE TO TALK ABOUT
CRIMES, WAS INTIMATING TO REMAINDER OF THE NATION THAT HOODLUM
TERRORISM REIGNED IN LOUISIANA AND PERSONS WOULD BE TAKEN FOR A RIDE
IF THEY TALKED ABOUT CRIMES. HE DENOUNCED THESE TACTICS, URGING ROGGE
NOT TO BE MISLEAD BY THE NEWSPAPERS AND HIS VANITY FOR PERSONAL

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Gandy

62-32509-25
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 5 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ONE

I read this to all and let

PUBLICITY. HE CHARGED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL MURPHY WAS CREATING IMPRESSION THAT CHICAGO AND KANSAS CITY TERRORISM REIGNED IN LOUSIANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF GIVING HIMSELF REPUTATION AS RACKET BUSTER SIMILAR TO DEWEY AS AID IN HIS PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRATIONS. HE CLAIMED THAT GENERAL MURPHY WAS INTERFERING WITH THE RIGHTS OF STATE GOVERNMENT BY INQUIRING INTO MATTERS OTHER THAN FEDERAL VIOLATIONS AND ADMONISHED HIM TO CONFINE HIS ACTIVITIES SOLELY TO FEDERAL VIOLATIONS.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC OEC

V

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:COH

Time: 11:05 a.m.

August 7, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

RE: POLITICAL CORRUPTION IN
LOUISIANA

7

SAC Sackett telephonically advised me that Mr. Rogge while talking to him last Friday had requested the details of the Abe Shusham jury investigation before the report is submitted. I told Sackett this would be satisfactory.

E. A. TAMM

62-32509-228

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 8 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

64

August 4, 1939

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sirs

There are enclosed photostatic copies of the following communications which have been received by the Department and referred to the Bureau. It is desired that a copy of these be furnished to United States Attorney Rene A. Viosca, for any consideration deemed appropriate by him.

Anonymous letter dated July 19, 1939, signed "American"

Anonymous letter dated July 18, 1939, enclosing newspaper clippings from the New Orleans States and The Times-Picayune

Letter signed Robert Reed and enclosure

Two letters dated July 11, 1939 from Miss Agnes E. Lewis and enclosure

Letter dated July 11, 1939, from Miss Annie C. Lewis

Letter signed Georg Harrison

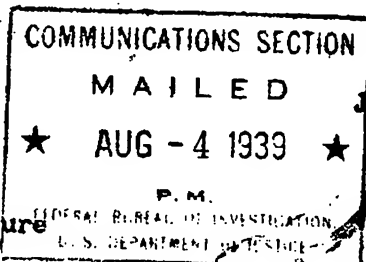
Letter from J. C. Wigginton, enclosing clipping from
New York Sun

Letter signed T. S. Weber

Very truly yours, **RECORDED**

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen Encl
Mr. Tamm
Miss Gandy

Enclosure



John Edgar Hoover
Director

62-32509-22
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 8 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

67

DECODED COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 5 - 1939

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-5-39 4-20 PM ALS

DIRECTOR

RE LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. JAMES M. BROWN, EQUITIES, INC., WHO WAS INTERMEDIARY BROKER FOR JAMES MONROE SMITH, ADVISED HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE TO EFFECT THAT IF ANY ATTACK IS MADE BY GOVERNMENT OR BY O. JOHN ROGGE ON SHIRLEY WIMBERLY AS RESULT OF WIMBERLYS SPEECH A STORY WOULD BE CIRCULATED TO EFFECT THAT ALFRED B. TETON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL, WHO IS NOW IN NEW ORLEANS, ROOMED WITH A NEGRO WHILE ATTENDING COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND THAT TETON WAS TELLING THE NEGRO THEY WILL GET EQUAL RIGHTS. NEWSPAPER STORIES INDICATED TETON WAS FORMERLY CONNECTED WITH THE CIVIL LIBERTIES DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT. FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH TETON BY AGENT OF THIS OFFICE PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF THIS INFORMATION, TETON ADVISED HE HAD ATTENDED UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO AND DID NOT MENTION HAVING ATTENDED COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. IT IS BELIEVED THAT SHOULD THIS ALLEGATION THAT TETON ROOMED WITH A NEGRO BE TRUE, AND SHOULD IT BE CIRCULATED IN THIS SECTION OF THE COUNTRY IT WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON CASES PRESENTLY PENDING HERE

RECORDED & INDEXED
SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC OEC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

62-32501-200
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 8 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EAT:HA

5-162-110

62-32509-226

66-1045-78

RECORDED

August 25, 1939

Mr. J. Fair Hardin
Special Assistant Attorney General
Nineteenth Judicial District
of Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Hardin:

With reference to your letter of August 5, 1939 advising of your desire to use Federal Bureau of Investigation Document Examiners for the purpose of examining a number of bonds of the Louisiana State University upon which the signature of former Governor O. K. Allen is supposed to have been forged, I would appreciate your furnishing me more specific information concerning the nature and volume of the documentary work to be done. I am particularly interested in knowing how soon it would be necessary to complete this examination, the contemplated date of the trial of this case, and the approximate time that the services of a Document Examiner would be utilized in testifying at the trial of the case. At the present time the volume of work being handled in the Technical Laboratory of the Bureau is such that before I can definitely determine whether it will be possible for the Bureau to conduct this examination it is necessary for me to have an estimate of the amount of time which will be required to perform the work. If you will furnish me with the additional data outlined above, I will then be pleased to give your request for Laboratory assistance further consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC - New Orleans

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Jones.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

5-162-110

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Aug 18 1 29 PM '39

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copy - v

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Nineteenth Judicial District
of Louisiana
Baton Rouge

August 5, 1934

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-2

You will probably recall me as Assistant U. S. Attorney for many years at Shreveport. I have recently been engaged to assist in the prosecution of Dr. James Monroe Smith and a number of other grafters at the Louisiana State University and elsewhere in the State. I have had a number of conferences with Mr. O. John Rogge and have been cooperating fully in this work.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

August 7, 1934

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LABORATORY

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TWO

Among the numerous crimes committed by Dr. Smith was the forgery of former Governor O. K. Allen's signature to about 118 genuine bonds of Louisiana State University. We are going to have to prove this forgery by handwriting experts. I spoke to Mr. Rogge about this and he said that he felt sure that you would be glad to let us have the facilities of the Bureau laboratory and one of your experts on this very important matter. I am writing to know if it is so that you can do this, and, if so, I will send ten specimens of Series A and Series C bonds each for examination of the questioned bonds, and five genuine bonds bearing genuine signatures.

Please let me hear from you as early as possible.

With best regards, I am

Very Sincerely yours,

/s/ J. Fair Hardin, Special
Asst. Attorney General.

JFH:GH

1165

Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

If every business large and small, if every individual with

RECORDED
ACH:LL
62-32509-147

August 14, 1939

and pay an income tax should not be

which view as the lottery

62-32509

made to their books and pay

the Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

from a list in the

Re: CRIME CONDITIONS - LOUISIANA

Dear Sirs:

There are inclosed herewith two photostatic copies of the following described communications received by the Bureau, and it is desired that one copy of each be furnished by your office to United States Attorney Rene A. Viosca, New Orleans:

Anonymous communication postmarked at Nashville, Tennessee, July 16, 1939.

Anonymous postal card postmarked at Shreveport, Louisiana, July 12, 1939, from "A Citizen."

Anonymous communication postmarked at New Orleans, Louisiana, August 3, 1939, from "Veni Vidi," together with its inclosures.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ AUG 17 1939 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Inclosure

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Crowl _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Lawler _____
- Mr. McIntire _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Scary _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Q. Tamm _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
AUG 15 5 18 PM '39
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

ACH

66

8/1/39
FBI
Washington D.C.

Gentlemen:

If every business large and small, if every individual with a sizable salary in America is compelled by law to show his earning and pay an income tax why should not those who collect the "rakeoff" of such vast enterprises as the lottery shops in the New Orleans area be made to show their books and pay income tax also.

In the New Orleans Area there are easily 100 lottery shops. These shops are from a hole in the wall to large halls where Nos. are drawn. The "rakeoff" to be paid to (?) to run one of these shops cost from 2.00 a day to \$10.00 according to size and neighborhood, and you must pay or you cant operate. Now 100 lottery shops with an average pay off of \$7.00 a day to (?) that makes about \$700.00 a day; A good deal of money to be split between a few big shots. Now all the wards leaders and other officials will tell you they dont know a thing about lottery shops. How can they lie like that when you must go see them and have their OK before you can operate.

ENCLOSURE

Now they are beginning to be scared by U.S. agents, if you dont catch on time they will tell you that there never was any lottery shops in New Orleans and Uncle Sam will have been cheated of hundred thousands of dollars of good income tax money.

Truly Yours,

Veni Vidi

P.S. The bookies that's big money too.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

8/10/39 - let. 1
ACH

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
AUG 7 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

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BLUE
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DAILY



THURSDAY
AUGUST

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NO LIMIT
Come see the
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See Our
Drawing



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DAY

Come see the
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ORIGINAL
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KENO
Combination



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ORIGINAL



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TUE.
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Come see the
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68

1-2-32509-127A

ACH:LL

August 18, 1939

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

Recently, Mr. Harry J. Costello, who resides at the St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, was interviewed at the Bureau, along with Mr. Ralph Alexis, who was staying temporarily at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., and who resides at 4408 Audubon Boulevard, New Orleans. These individuals were subsequently interviewed by the Attorney General.

The information furnished by Mr. Costello and Mr. Alexis when interviewed at the Bureau was recorded by stenographers, and there are being forwarded herewith two copies of the memorandum prepared in this connection.

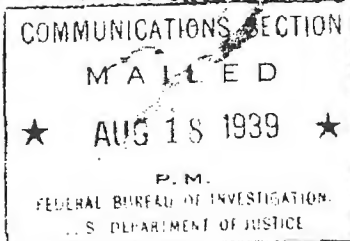
Mr. Costello also furnished the following, two photostatic copies of each being inclosed herewith:

1. A list of various persons who received tax reductions by the State Board of Affairs, it being the contention of Mr. Costello and Mr. Alexis that any person who received a tax reduction from the State Board of Affairs would be prejudiced if sitting as a juror in any proceeding concerning the present situation in Louisiana.
2. A sheet of paper which sets forth information relative to Hutchinson serving on the jury in the Shushan income tax trial, it being noted that he is supposed to have been reached by Detective Captain Henry Asset of the New Orleans Police.
3. A 7-page statement concerning the power of the local assessors of New Orleans.
4. Memorandum entitled "Notes on Some Boat Deals."

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. G. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____

COPIES DESTROYED

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15862
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RAG
New Orleans

- 2 -

August 18, 1939

5. Memorandum relative to the income tax cases of Robert S. Maestri, which has a note to Drew (who evidently is Drew Pearson of the Washington Merry-Go-Round) suggesting that maybe Bob Allen could help on this matter.
6. Memorandum concerning the visit of Mr. Joseph Keenan to New Orleans on December 3, 4, and 5, 1938, and a list of those who were present at the time of this trip.

It is desired that one copy of each of the inclosures to this letter be furnished personally to Honorable O. John Rogge, Assistant Attorney General.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

70

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JFS:VTM

August 2, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

Pursuant to the instructions of Mr. E. A. Tamm, I interviewed Harry J. Costello, residence St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, who was temporarily residing at the Mayflower Hotel. Present during the interview was Supervisor Hayden. Mr. Costello communicated with Ralph Alexis, who was temporarily residing at the Mayflower Hotel, and who resides at 4408 Audubon Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana, and they together advised of their reasons for contacting Attorney General Murphy, with whom they had an appointment on August 3, 1939, 11:15 A. M.

① The substance of their complaint was taken by two stenographers, and is included as part of this memorandum. A summary memorandum was prepared for the Attorney General over the Director's signature, and was forwarded to the Attorney General prior to the time of the appointment of Mr. Costello and Mr. Alexis on the morning of August 3, 1939.

RECORDED & INDEXED

In addition to the information submitted by Mr. Alexis and Mr. Costello, Mr. Costello presented a list of various persons who received tax reductions by the State Board of Affairs, it being the contention of Mr. Costello and Mr. Alexis that any persons who received a tax reduction from the State Board of Affairs would be prejudiced if sitting as jurors in any proceedings concerning the present situation in Louisiana.

Likewise, Mr. Costello furnished a sheet of paper which sets forth information relative to Hutchinson serving on the jury in the Shushan income tax trial. He is supposed to have been reached by Detective Captain Henry Asset of the New Orleans Police. He also furnished a seven page statement concerning the power of the local assessors of New Orleans.

It is noted in these memoranda that there is "Note to Drew", who evidently is Drew-Pearson of the Washington Merry-Go-Round.

There were also furnished the following: Memorandum concerning "Notes on some Boat Deals"; Memorandum concerning the income tax cases of Robert S. Maestri, which has a note to Drew

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Memorandum for the File

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suggesting that maybe Bob Allen could help on this matter; ^①Memorandum concerning the visit of Joseph Keenan to New Orleans on December 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1938, and who were present at the time of this trip.

Photostatic copies have been made of these papers, both for the Bureau files and the New Orleans Division for the information of that office.

J. F. Sears
J. F. Sears

Show to the General Attorney
See

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
AUG 2 - 1939
TELETYPE

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-2-39 6PM WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. O JOHN ROGGE ADVISED E. V. CAMPBELL ASSISTANT TREASURER, EAST TEXAS OIL COMPANY, STATED THAT HE LEARNED LAST DECEMBER THAT IN NINETEEN THIRTY SIX A COMMISSION OF TEN CENTS PER BARREL WAS PAID FOR PERMISSION TO RUN OIL IN EXCESS OF PRORATION THROUGH PIPE LINES AND THAT SYMOUR WEISS GOT FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS OUT OF ONE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS COMMISSIONS PAID. ROGGE BELIEVES WEISS SPLIT WITH R. W. RECHE, THAT HE BELIEVED THAT IN ORDER TO RUN THE OIL AND AGREEMENT WAS MADE TO PAY THE TEN CENTS COMMISSION, SO BELIEVES A VIOLATION OF THE CONELLEY ACT IS APPARENT.

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